

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 2-4, 6 and 9-10, amend claims 1, 5 and 7-8, and add claims 11-13 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for data transmission ~~over a~~ via several data channels in a network linking several units to one another, ~~the units functioning as data sources, data sinks, or transceivers,~~ the method comprising the steps of:

assigning a ~~first~~ data channel to a first predetermined at least one ~~or more~~ connection segments, where the data channel is part of a Media Oriented Systems Transport ("MOST") network having a ring topology;

assigning ~~the said first~~ data channel to a second predetermined at least one ~~or more~~ connection segments ~~not including other than the said first~~ predetermined at least one ~~or more~~ connection segments; and

simultaneously transmitting data between at least two units across ~~the said first~~ predetermined at least one ~~or more~~ connection segments via ~~the said first~~ data channel, and data between at least two ~~or more~~ other units across ~~the said second~~ predetermined at least one ~~or more~~ connection segments via ~~the said first~~ data channel.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein ~~the~~ the data are transmitted in ~~only~~ a first direction around the MOST network ring topology over the said-first predetermined at least one or more-connection segments, and wherein the data are transmitted in only a second direction around the MOST network ring topology over the said-second predetermined at least one or more-connection segments, and wherein the said-first and second directions and said-second direction are the same direction.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein ~~the~~ the said first and second directions are clockwise around the MOST~~ring~~ network.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein ~~the~~ the said first and second directions are counterclockwise around the MOST~~ring~~ network.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (New) A method for data transmission via a data channel in a Media Oriented Systems Transport (MOST) network linking several multimedia units to one another and having a ring network topology, the method comprising the steps of:

assigning a data channel in the MOST network to a first predetermined at least one connection segment;

assigning the data channel to a second predetermined at least one connection segment other than the first predetermined at least one connection segment; and

simultaneously transmitting data between a first plurality of the multimedia units across the first predetermined at least one connection segment via the data channel, and data between a second plurality of the multimedia units other than the first plurality of the multimedia units across the second predetermined at least one connection segment via the data channel, where the data are transmitted in a first direction around the MOST network ring topology over the first predetermined at least one connection segment, the data are transmitted in a second direction around the MOST network ring topology over the second predetermined at least one connection segment, and the first and second directions are the same.

12. (New) The method of claim 11, where the first and second directions are clockwise.

13. (New) The method of claim 11, where the first and second directions are counterclockwise.